

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 remain in this application. Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be reconsidered in view of the following remarks.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,570,573 to Kazachinsky et al. ("Kazachinsky") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,272,600 to Talbot et al. ("Talbot").

Embodiments of the present invention concern a graphics device that includes a multipurpose buffer mechanism to monitor the status of a plurality of data requests. Looking for example at Fig. 4, a buffer mechanism 440 is provided that receives data requests from dispatcher 420 and handles them with respect to the cache 470 and the main memory (e.g., via main memory requests dispatcher 450).

The present application was filed after November 29, 1999. Therefore, 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) may be applied to this application. The Kazachinsky reference on its face designates Intel Corporation as the assignee of the patent. The present application identifies two inventors, Rima M. Nazanda and Subramaniam Maiyuran. At the time of invention, both were Intel employees obligated to assign the invention to Intel Corporation. An assignment was executed on March 15, 2002 and recorded with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at Reel No. 012740; Frame No. 0480. Accordingly, at the time of invention, the present application and the Kazachinsky patent had been assigned and/or were under an obligation of assignment to the same organization. Since the Kazachinsky reference issued well after the filing date of the present application, it qualifies as prior art only under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), and cannot be used in this case as a

reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For all the above reasons, the Applicant respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4255 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,
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